

Message Text

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16

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 NEA-06 /084 W

----- 038184

R 191439Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 970

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 2409

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, AO, ZA

SUBJECT: SAVIMBI VISIT TO LUSAKA

REF: LUSAKA 2402

1. UNITA LEADER JONAS SAVIMBI MET WITH PRESIDENT KAUNDA FOR ONE HOUR PRIOR TO KAUNDA'S DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW ON SUNDAY, NOV 17. PRESS SAYS SAVIMBI BRIEFED KAUNDA ON CURRENT SITUATION IN ANGOLA. EXPECTED MEETING IN LUSAKA WITH MPLA PRESIDENT NETO DID NOT TAKE PLACE OVER WEEKEND BUT PRESS INDICATED ZAMBIA WAS ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT NETO IN ANOTHER AFRICAN COUNTRY TO URGE HIM TO COME TO LUSAKA FOR TALKS WITH SAVIMBI.

2. IN INTERVIEW WITH GRZ-OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, SAVIMBI REITERATED THAT PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION IN ANGOLA IS BEING HELD UP BY FAILURE OF THREE
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LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TO MERGE AND FORM TRANSITIONAL

GOVERNMENT. WERE MPLA, FNLA, AND UNITA TO FORM COALITION GOVERNMENT TODAY, SAVIMBI DECLARED, PORTUGUESE MILITARY JUNTA WOULD OFFER NO RESISTANCE TO MOVE WHICH COULD BECOME STARTING POINT IN DECOLONIZATION PROCESS.

3. WHILE IN LUSAKA, SAVIMBI HAS BEEN AT PAINS TO REFUTE CHARGES THAT UNITA-PORTUGUESE TRUCE NEGOTIATED LAST SUMMER WAS A SELLOUT AS SOME OTHER ANGOLAN LIBERATION LEADERS HAVE ALLEGED. IN ZAMBIAN TV INTERVIEW BROADCAST SUNDAY NIGHT, SAVIMBI EXPLAINED THAT UNITA HAD SUSPENDED LIBERATION WAR IN ANGOLA TO ALLOW PEACEFUL ATMOSPHERE FOR NEGOTIATIONS OF UNITY AMONG ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. UNITA ASKED PORTUGUESE TO HALT LAND AND AIR ATTACKS ON LIBERATED AREAS AND TO PERMIT UNITA CONTACT ALL PEOPLE OF ANGOLA WITHOUT INTERFERENCE BY PORTUGUESE POLICE. THIS WAS NOT CEASE-FIRE AS HAD BEEN INTERPRETED ELSEWHERE. SAVIMBI ASSERTED HE HAD ALL ALONG MAINTAINED ANY SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE SHALL BE WITH PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WITH FULL PARTICIPATION OF UNITA, MPLA, AND FNLA AND WITH INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES PRESENT.

4. SAVIMBI AGREED CABINDAN SEPARATISM A SERIOUS PROBLEM BUT ASSERTED LIBERATION MOVEMENTS COULD NOT AGREE TO ITS SECESSION AS THIS WOULD ESTABLISH DANGEROUS PRECEDENT FOR OTHER ANGOLAN REGIONS.

5. SAVIMBI IS REPORTEDLY TO MEET TODAY WITH OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE FACT-FINDING TEAM WHICH IS EXPECTED TO ENDORSE UNITA'S APPLICATION FOR RECOGNITION AS A LEGITIMATE AND VIABLE LIBERATION MOVEMENT. (IT OUR UNDERSTANDING THE MAY 1974 YAOUNDE MEETING OF THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RECOGNITION OF UNITA, THE MOGADISCIO OAU SUMMIT IN JUNE HESITATED AND REQUESTED THE FURTHER EXAMINATION WHICH IS NOW GOING ON HERE IN LUSAKA.) DAILY MAIL QUOTES

OAU REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR ZAMBIA, MUSYANI SIMUMBA, AS SAYING "THERE IS LIKELHOOD OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSITIVE OUTCOME FROM THE MISSION'S FINDINGS" BUT ADDING THIS OF COURSE UP TO LIBERATION COMMITTEE TO WHICH TEAM'S REPORT TO BE FURNISHED NEXT MONTH FOR REVIEW.

6. COMMENT: SAVIMBI VISIT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN MENDING UNITA'S FENCES WITH ZAMBIA. IT HAS ALSO GIVEN SAVIMBI SOME USEFUL PUBLIC

EXPOSURE AS ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT LEADER
MOST READY TO ESTABLISH COALITION GOVERNMENT
WITH FNLA AND MPLA -- A POSITION LIKELY TO APPEAL
TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA WHO DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT
INABILITY OF THREE ANGOLAN GROUPS TO
COOPERATE AND CONSEQUENT DANGER OF CIVIL WAR
IN ANGOLA. QUESTION, HOWEVER, REMAINS WHETHER
NETO CAN BE PERSUADED TO MEET WITH SAVIMBI. ZAMBIAN
PRESS GIVES IMPRESSION NETO'S PRESENT WHEREABOUTS
MAY NOT BE PRECISELY KNOWN. KAUNDA'S TWO-WEEK
ABSENCE ON HIS TRIP TO USSR, ROMANIA, YUGOSLAVIA,
AND IRAN WILL TEMPORARILY LESSEN PRESSURE OF A
LEADING AFRICAN ON NETO. IT NOW APPEARS UNLIKELY THERE WILL
BE SAVIMBI- NETO
MEETING IN LUSAKA. ZAMBIA NEWS AGENCY REPORTS
SAVIMBI AS TELLING FOLLOWERS HE WILL MEET WITH
NETO IN DAR AFTER SAVIMBI'S TRIP TO KINSHASA FOR
TALKS WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND WITH FNLA'S HOLDEN
ROBERTO.
WILKOWSKI

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